Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TUNIS 03690 261024Z ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 EB-07 FEA-01 CIAE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-07
AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 EPG-02 COME-00
DLOS-09 DOTE-00 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00
H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01
OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
NEAE-00 /129 W

-----262041Z 052495 /62

O 261058Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6891

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA IMMEDIATE

CINCUSNAVEUR PRIORITY

COMSIXTHFLT PRIORITY

EUCOM PRIORITY

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES ITALY PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL TUNIS 3690

CINCUSNAVEUR, COMSIXTHFLT, EUCOM, USDOCOSOUTH ALSO PASS POLADS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PLOS, ENRG, TS, OY, IT

SUBJECT: TUNISIAN/LIBYAN CONTINENTAL SHELF DISPUTE: ARRIVAL OF AMERICAN DRILLING RIG IN DISPUTED AREA - REQUEST FOR PRESS GUIDANCE

REF: VALLETTA 595 (NOTAL), TUNIS 3429, TUNIS 3022, PARIS 15376, STATE 11716

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TUNIS 03690 261024Z

- 1. WITH "J.W. BATES" EXPECTED TO HAVE REACHED VICINITY OF PROPOSED DRILLING SITE IN DISPUTED AREA ABOUT 110 HOURS TODAY, REQUEST PROMPT DEPARTMENT GUIDANCE ON PRESS HANDLING.
- 2. WHETHER OR NOT SHIP'S ARRIVAL IS ACCOMPANIED BY GOT LEGAL ACTION, OR INCIDENT, STORY LIKELY TO BREAK ANY MOMENT IN LOCAL PRESS. REPORT IN PARIS 15376 THAT FRENCH LIKELY TO FOLLOW

"AMERICAN" PRECEDENT HEIGHTENS POTENTIAL PROBLEM OF TUNISIAN REACTION TO READING AND BATES OPERATION.

- 3. I WOULD HOPE TO BE IN POSITION PROMPTLY TOLDEPLORE DECISION OF INTERESTED PARTIES, INCLUDING AMERICAN OWNERS; TO EXPRESS LONG-STANDING USG POLICY OF OPPOSITION TO EMPLOYMENT OF US CREWS OR SHIPS IN INHERENTLY DANGEROUS DISPUTED ZONES, AND TO OUTLINE STEPS TAKEN BY USG INCLUDING VELIOTES' LETTER, HANSELL CONVERSATION WITH BATES, AND CONSULTATIONS WITH AMBASSADOR HEDDA WITH VIEW TO DETERRING IRRESPONSIBLE ACTION WHICH WE ULTIMATELY WERE WITHOUT LEGAL RECOURSE TO BLOCK.
- 2. ASSUME DEPARTMENT REPEATING VALLETTA 595 TO OTHER ADDRESSEES. $\mbox{\sc Mulcahy}$

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: DISPUTES, CONTINENTAL SHELF, OFFSHORE DRILLING, INSTRUCTIONS, THE PRESS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 26-May-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am Decaption Note:

Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event: Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TUNIS03690
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D770188-1087 Format: TEL

From: TUNIS

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770512/aaaaakkm.tel Line Count: 76

Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e777-8888-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION NEA

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 VALLETTA 595, 77 TUNIS 3429, 77 TUNIS 3022, 77 PARIS 15376

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 17-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am

Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a

Review Media Identifier: Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2349157 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: TUNISIAN/LIBYAN CONTINENTAL SHELF DISPUTE: ARRIVAL OF AMERICAN DRILLING RIG IN DISPUTED AREA - REQUEST FOR

PRESS GUIDANCE

TAGS: PFOR, PLOS, ENRG, TS, LY, IT, US

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e777e888-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released **US** Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009